

ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 103, the adjournment resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 103) providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 103) was agreed to, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 103

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday, March 29, 2007, or Friday, March 30, 2007, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Monday, April 16, 2007, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on Thursday, March 29, 2007, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Tuesday, April 10, 2007, or such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

STAR PRINT—S. 5

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. 5 be star printed with the changes at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONDEMNING THE SEIZURE OF 15 BRITISH NAVAL PERSONNEL BY IRAN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 136.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 136) expressing the sense of the Senate condemning the seizure

by the government of Iran of 15 British naval personnel in Iraqi territorial waters, and calling for their immediate safe and unconditional release.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 136) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 136

Whereas, on March 23, 2007, a naval vessel of the United Kingdom, the HMS Cornwall, was conducting routine operations in Iraqi territorial waters pursuant to United Nations Security Council Resolution 1723 (2006) and in support of the Government of Iraq;

Whereas, on March 23, 2007, a boarding team consisting of 7 Royal Marines and 8 sailors embarked on 2 of the boats of the HMS Cornwall to conduct a routine boarding of an Indian flagged merchant vessel pursuant to the authorization of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1723 (2006);

Whereas, as Vice Admiral Charles Style, Deputy Chief of the British Defense Staff (Commitments), demonstrated in a presentation on March 28, 2007, "the merchant vessel was 7.5 nautical miles south east of the Al Faw Peninsula, . . . 29 degrees 50.36 minutes North 048 degrees 43.08 minutes East. This places her 1.7 nautical miles inside Iraqi territorial waters. This fact has been confirmed by the Iraqi Foreign Ministry.";

Whereas at some point shortly after completion of the successful inspection of the merchant ship, the two United Kingdom vessels were surrounded and escorted by Iranian Islamic Republican Guard Navy vessels toward the Shatt 'Al Arab Waterway and into Iranian territorial waters;

Whereas, as Margaret Beckett, the Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom, stated to the House of Commons on March 28, 2007, even the coordinates of the seizure event that were given by Iran's Ambassador to the United Kingdom at the Ambassador's first meeting with United Kingdom officials were themselves in Iraqi waters;

Whereas Foreign Secretary Beckett noted in that same statement that authorities of the Government of Iran provided "corrected" coordinates of the incident on March 25, 2007, claiming that the event took place in Iranian waters;

Whereas the merchant vessel that was boarded had remained anchored since the time it was boarded, and on March 25, 2007, its location was verified to be in Iraqi waters;

Whereas Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Tony Blair stated on March 25, 2007, that "there is no doubt at all that these people were taken from a boat in Iraqi waters. It is simply not true that they went into Iranian territorial waters."; and

Whereas the Government of Iran has yet to release the 15 British sailors it has been holding captive since seizing the sailors from Iraqi waters on March 23, 2007: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns in the strongest possible terms the seizure by the Government of Iran of 15 British naval personnel from Iraqi territorial waters as a provocative and illegal act; and

(2) calls for the immediate, safe, and unconditional release of the personnel from captivity.

DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL 2007 AS "NATIONAL ASBESTOS AWARENESS WEEK"

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 131 and the Senate then proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 131) designating the first week of April 2007 as "National Asbestos Awareness Week."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise to talk to you about an important resolution that the Senate adopted today: the Asbestos Awareness Week resolution. This resolution recognizes the first week in April as National Asbestos Awareness Week.

This resolution acknowledges the dangerous nature of asbestos. Importantly, it gives tribute to hundreds of thousands of people who have died from exposure.

To me, this resolution is very personal. Deaths from exposure to asbestos are common in my home State of Montana—all too common. Libby, MT is a small community in the western part of Montana. Libby is a very unique place.

It is surrounded by the beauty and splendor of the Cabinet Mountains. But it is also plagued with sickness and disease. The extent of asbestos contamination in Libby, the number of people who are sick, the amount of people who have died from asbestos exposures just staggering.

The community of Libby suffers from asbestos related diseases at 40 to 60 times higher than the rest of the country. Folks in Libby are diagnosed with mesothelioma, the deadly form of cancer from asbestos, at 100 times higher than the average rate.

Mesothelioma recently took the life of a very dear friend of mine from Libby—Les Skramstad. Just a few weeks ago, I came to the floor to talk about Les and how he was an outspoken advocate for Libby.

Until the day he died, Les worked tirelessly to share his story and the story of Libby's quiet emergency.

The first night I met Les in January of 2000, he challenged me to help all those in Libby suffering from asbestos-related diseases. Les challenged me "to do something."

He said: MAX, please, as a man like me—as someone's father too, as someone's husband, as someone's son, help me. Help us. Help us make this town safe for Libby's sons and daughters not even born yet. They should not suffer my fate too. I was a miner and

breathed that dust in. Everyday I carried that deadly dust home on my clothes. I took it into our house and I contaminated my own wife and each of my babies with it too. I just don't know how to live with the pain of what I have done to them.

If we can make something good come of this, maybe I'll stick around to see that, maybe that could make this worthwhile.

I told him I would do all that I could, that I wouldn't back down, and that I wouldn't give up. Les accepted my offer and then pointed his finger and said to me: I'll be watching, Senator.

I have kept my promise to Les and I have worked hard to help people in Libby. I will continue to do all I can to help Libby.

I know that now even though Les is not with us today he is still watching. Les is my inspiration.

Because of Les's work and other advocates in Libby, we launched the Center for Asbestos Related Diseases in Libby—called the CARD clinic. CARD has screened and provided health care to hundreds of Libby residents.

Screening is an essential part of making sure people get the help they need. Spreading the word about asbestos exposure is also vital to ensure that people who are sick get the treatment they deserve.

The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization is a leader in this fight. They work tirelessly to advocate on behalf of asbestos victims so that thousands more in the future should not suffer the same fate.

Along with the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization, others in the Libby community such as Gayla Benefield and Dr. Brad Black have worked to educate people about the dangers of asbestos exposure.

Then there are also those who have left Libby, but continue to advocate on behalf of asbestos victims such as Margy Urnberg and Kenny and Karen Moss, all former residents of Libby and remarkable volunteers.

An asbestos awareness week will help spread the word about the deadliness of these fibers and bring relief to those who suffer from asbestos-related diseases. I will continue to fight for those like Les, whose lives have been taken by asbestos. I made a promise to Les and I won't stop until I have fulfilled that promise.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD as if given, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 131) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 131

Whereas dangerous asbestos fibers are invisible and cannot be smelled or tasted;

Whereas the inhalation of airborne asbestos fibers can cause significant damage;

Whereas these fibers can cause mesothelioma, asbestosis, and other health problems;

Whereas asbestos-related diseases can take 10 to 50 years to present themselves;

Whereas the expected survival time for those diagnosed with mesothelioma is between 6 and 24 months;

Whereas generally little is known about late stage treatment and there is no cure for asbestos-related diseases;

Whereas early detection of asbestos-related diseases may give some patients increased treatment options and might improve their prognosis;

Whereas the United States has substantially reduced its consumption of asbestos yet continues to consume almost 7,000 metric tons of the fibrous mineral for use in certain products throughout the Nation;

Whereas asbestos-related diseases have killed thousands of people in the United States;

Whereas asbestos exposures continue and safety and prevention will reduce and has reduced significantly asbestos exposure and asbestos-related diseases;

Whereas asbestos has been a cause of occupational cancer;

Whereas thousands of workers in the United States face significant asbestos exposure;

Whereas thousands of people in the United States die from asbestos-related diseases every year;

Whereas a significant percentage of all asbestos-related disease victims were exposed to asbestos on naval ships and in shipyards;

Whereas asbestos was used in the construction of a significant number of office buildings and public facilities built before 1975;

Whereas people in the small community of Libby, Montana have asbestos-related diseases at a significantly higher rate than the national average and suffer from mesothelioma at a significantly higher rate than the national average; and

Whereas the establishment of a "National Asbestos Awareness Week" would raise public awareness about the prevalence of asbestos-related diseases and the dangers of asbestos exposure; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the first week of April 2007 as "National Asbestos Awareness Week";

(2) urges the Surgeon General, as a public health issue, to warn and educate people that asbestos exposure may be hazardous to their health; and

(3) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Surgeon General.

TRAUMA CARE SYSTEMS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2007

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 727.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 727) to amend the Public Health Service Act to add requirements regarding trauma care, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time, and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD as if read, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 727) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

NATIONAL BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER EARLY DETECTION PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to H.R. 1132.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1132) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide waivers relating to grants for preventive health measures with respect to breast and cervical cancers.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to applaud the passage of H.R. 1132, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Reauthorization Act of 2007, a program that the Senator from Texas, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and I have worked closely to reauthorize. H.R. 1132, like our companion bill S. 624, reauthorizes the successful Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. The legislation authorizes increased funding for this program to \$275 million over 5 years and provides States with greater flexibility to reach priority, hard to reach populations including women living in rural areas and racial and ethnic minorities.

Senator HUTCHISON and I would like to clarify with the chairman and ranking member the intent of the new waiver demonstration project. The legislation authorizes the establishment of a waiver demonstration project that will allow States to leverage non-Federal funds for breast and cervical cancer screening and follow-up services, reduce barriers to screening, and increase the number of women served. Non-Federal funds for breast and cervical cancer services/activities are available in some States through State or local government sources and private sources. Leveraging these non-Federal funds will augment limited available Federal funding and thus enable the efficient and effective utilization of resources to provide education and outreach to screen more women. It is Congress's intent that the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, will administer the described demonstration project as part of its overall management of the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Program.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I thank my good friend from Maryland for her support and partnership in reauthorizing this very important piece of legislation, and I appreciate the assistance we received from Chairman KENNEDY and Ranking Member ENZI, as well as the administration and our House colleagues. Early detection of breast and cervical cancers saves lives